Numismatic Guaranty Corporation

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NGC Certifies Extremely Rare Crown

Posted on 1/12/2016

A collector recently submitted a rare 1809 Bank of Guernsey 5 Shilling, which was graded NGC AU 58.

The 1809 Bank of Guernsey 5 Shilling Token (or Crown—the British name for a 5 Shilling silver coin) issued by Bishop, de Jersey & Co. is considered to be one of the rarest crowns in the world. An estimated six to seven examples are believed to still exist of this coin. One was recently submitted to NGC where it received a grade of NGC AU 58.



1809 Bank of Guernsey 5S Bishop de Jersey & Co Graded NGC AU 58, obverse **(left)**, reverse **(right)**
Click images to enlarge.

A small island in the British Channel near France, Guernsey primarily used French coinage in commerce prior to 1800. In the early 19th century, Abraham Bishop and Henry de Jersey, who were traders and silversmiths, joined together to form a private bank called Bishop, de Jersey & Co. Following their success in issuing

banknotes, Bishop, de Jersey & Co. decided to issue coins.

The Bishop, de Jersey & Co Bank of Guernsey Crown was struck at the famed Soho Mint of Boulton & Watt in Birmingham, England. The dies were engraved by Thomas Wyon (the elder) and the coins were struck over circulating Spanish 8 Reales. They were assigned the value of “token of five shillings” and were dated 1809.

Guernsey, however, was not enthusiastic about the privately issued coins and moved quickly to ban them. An ordinance dated October 2, 1809, forbade the circulation of these coins and made all privately struck tokens illegal. The Bank of Guernsey Crowns were quickly removed from circulation and melted. Two years later, the Bank of Guernsey failed.



1809 Bank of Guernsey 5S Bishop de Jersey & Co Graded NGC AU 58, obverse **(left)**, reverse **(right)**
Click images to enlarge.

These rare pieces were the first silver coins issued for Guernsey and the only silver coins struck until 1972. This NGC AU 58 example is the first to have been graded by NGC.

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Congratulations to the 2015 NGC Registry Award Winners

Posted on 1/8/2016

Annually, NGC recognizes outstanding achievement in Registry Set building. For many collectors, Registry Set building is a longtime personal journey and we thank every participant for sharing their sets and experiences through the NGC Registry.

There are now nearly 90,000 sets in the NGC Registry. It is our pleasure to review and consider so many terrific sets.

Five winners were selected in each of four competitive categories: Best Classic, Best Modern, Best World and Best Presented. Additionally, we chose five winners for Custom Sets in the following categories: Best Overall, Best World, Best Ancient, Most Creative and Most Informative. Finally, we are honoring three outstanding Collectors Journals authors.

After much consideration and review of sets across all categories, our team of experts made their selections. Congratulations to our winners!



Best Classic Sets

Electric Peak Collection — *EPC Liberty Seated Half Dimes (Set 1 — Route 66)*
This collection of Liberty Seated Half Dimes is nearly complete, lacking just ten coins at present, one of which is the unique 1870-S issue. All but a few of the coins are high-end, Mint State examples, and the owner has stated his goal of acquiring only well struck pieces. Also favored is attractive toning, which makes these coins quite pleasing to the eye. Among the highlights are 1839-O grading MS 66, 1848-O in MS 67 and 1864, also a MS 67 gem. Three of the coins in this collection carry the coveted NGC Star (★) Designation for superior eye appeal,

and two (1866 and 1868) are designated as Prooflike.

Grandman — *GrandView Double Eagle Collection (No Proofs)*

The combination of high bullion value and a very extensive roster of coins is enough to discourage most from attempting to complete a set of Coronet Liberty Double Eagles, but Grandman is very close to achieving that goal. All but the rarest pieces are already present. Since many issues are unknown or nearly so in Mint State, this collection features a blend of XF and AU pieces for the early dates, with a long run of MS coins for all but one of the post-1893 coins. Standout specimens include 1854-S (AU 55), 1857-S (MS 65), 1868 (AU 58), 1885-CC (AU 53) and a particularly nice example of the rare 1892 (AU 58 PL).

T. Crabtree — *Greenbrier River Proof Liberty Nickel Collection*

Just two issues are presently lacking in this superb run of proof Liberty Head Nickels, and the quality of the coins already assembled is uniformly outstanding. Ultra Cameo proofs of this coin type are exceedingly rare, yet the present set kicks things off with an 1883 No CENTS nickel grading PF 67 UC. Other exceptional coins include several certified as PF 68 Cameo (1884, 1891, 1897, 1903, 1909 and 1910), and four issues bearing the NGC Star (★) Designation for superior eye appeal: 1895, 1900 and 1901 (all grading PF 68★) and 1907 (PF 67★).

kidzmd — *kidzmd buffalos*

The Buffalo Nickel series is a perennial favorite with collectors, and this set is nearing completion with uniformly excellent specimens, all of them NGC-certified. The very first entry, 1913 Type 1, is a superb MS 68 specimen. Other coins achieving that lofty grade include 1937 (also carrying the precious ★), 1938-D and 1938-D/S. Among the noteworthy condition rarities in this collection are 1921 (MS 67+), 1924 and 1925 (both MS 67), and 1928-S (MS 65★). There are no fewer than nine pieces bearing the highly sought NGC Star designation, making for a most memorable collection.

DLCCOIN — *DLCCOIN TYPE SET*

This is a very impressive collection that has been updated in recent months. The judges were struck not only with its breadth and quality, but also by the fact that the owner has focused primarily on locating NGC-certified examples.. A USA type set from half cents through silver dollars is quite an undertaking, yet most of the slots have already been filled. Among the more elusive coin types included are attractive, VF examples of the 1793 half cent and the 1793 Chain and Wreath Cents. One intriguing aspect is that the Draped Bust silver types from dime through dollar are in matching NGC AU 55 grades, which shows a rare level of consistency. Ironically, the highest scoring coin is one of the most common by

type, yet a 1955 cent is anything but common when it grades PF 69 RD!



Best Modern Sets

RHF — *RHF Susan B. Anthony Dollars, 1979-1999, Complete*

The SBA Dollar, a coin so maligned in its own time, has begun to gain some stature with collectors, as it's a short set that's challenging to complete in top grades. This is due mostly to the non-proof issues, which are elusive in gem condition. The collection's owner has overcome that obstacle, with a set that has uniformly PF 70 Ultra Cameo issues combined with currency strikes grading MS 67 through MS 69. The standout condition rarity is 1979-S grading MS 68, while other toughies include 1979-P Narrow Rim, 1980-P, 1981-D and 1999-P, all of them lovely coins in matched MS 68 grades.

Tim Couch — *Couch's Proof Kennedys*

Quality is the key ingredient in this collection, as all of the regular proof issues from 1974 onward are uniformly PF 70 Ultra Cameo. The earlier issues are likewise outstanding, as they are graded about as highly as these less well produced issues are known. All coins are present from 1964 through 2015, including the Accented Hair (PF 67 UC), the scarce Type 2 mintmarks of 1979-S and 1981-S (both PF 70 UC) and the silver and gold 50th Anniversary issues of 2014 (also PF 70, either Reverse PF or UC). The frosty white devices of these coins look especially attractive in their white NGC holders.

john zabecki —*Jeanna's - #13*

This handsome collection features a complete run of Canada Commemorative Dollars 1981-2015, more than 70 coins in all. The very latest emission is yet to be added but will be shortly, one imagines. Nearly all are NGC-certified as PF 70 Ultra Cameo, with a few 69 UC pieces entered for some of the toughest issues. The standout coin in this collection is the 2002 dollar honoring Britain's Queen Mother, who passed that year. Its score is nearly double that of the next most valuable entry, and the owner has noted that these lovely coins are earmarked for his daughter's college fund---very thoughtful, Dad.

Russ736 — *Russ 736 ¼ AU Panda MS*

China's Panda series of bullion coins is popular worldwide, and this fine collection brings together a complete run of the quarter-ounce gold pieces in Mint State from 1982 through 2015. During that time, the denomination of these was raised from 25 yuan to 100 yuan to match the rising price of gold. All but two of these coins

are certified by NGC as MS 70, with the others being MS 69. The pieces from 2011 to date are Early Releases, that being the first year that such labeling was offered for Panda coins. The standout rarity in this set is the 1998 issue in NGC MS 70, which is scored 50% higher than its runner up.

Cameonut — *CGM III Cameo Shooters*

Switzerland was famous for its long series of silver thalers commemorating the popular shooting festivals that rotated from town to town, and this tradition survives today in the form of silver 50-franc coins that have been issued since 1984. The collection presented here is complete through 2015, and all of the coins are NGC-certified as either PF 69 Ultra Cameo or PF 70 UC. The sole exception is the 1984 issue, which is also present as a non-proof grading MS 69. The artistry of the designs is best understood by simply clicking on the photo icons, as each specimen is illustrated in this collection. The key coin is easily the 1984 piece graded PF 69 UC, of which just 300 were minted.



Best World Sets

Ir Dannies Fum — *British North Borneo Complete Circulation*

The owner of this collection has set a goal of acquiring each coin issued for British North Borneo from 1882 through 1941, and just three entries are yet lacking. This series ranges in denomination from half cent through five cents, with a sole 25-cent piece from 1929. Interestingly, all were struck by the Heaton Mint in Birmingham, England under contract and carry its “H” mintmark. The top scoring entries are the cent and half cent dated 1907H, both of which have mintages of one million pieces but precious few survivors. The owner describes this collection as including “some of the finest pieces graded by NGC in terms of eye appeal, preservation, originality and aesthetics.”

Otto Flynt — *NGC MS $ Set #1*

This is a complete run of silver dollars coined by Canada from its first issue of 1935 through the end of circulating silver dollars in 1967. The collection is complete for all dates and varieties, aside from a couple of the 1947 varieties, and every coin is Mint State. The key date 1945 and 1948 dollars are each NGC-certified as MS 63. Rare varieties include 1947 Pointed 7 and 1966 Small Beads (both MS 63). Top entries in terms of numeric grade are the 1935 dollar honoring George V’s Jubilee (NGC MS 66) and the 1949 Newfoundland commemorative (NGC MS 67).

Piefort — *Piefort's Colon Set*

This complete, 15-piece collection of Costa Rica's "Cristobal Colon" gold coins spans the years 1897-1928 and includes four denominations ranging from two to 20 colones. The series was coined in either San Jose, Costa Rica or Philadelphia, USA. The grades of this collection are outstanding, and included are the only five coins of the series graded MS 67 by NGC (all five are two-colones pieces, and one date is duplicated). Among the highlights of this set are the 1899 and 1900 G10C coins, each grading MS 65, and the 1897 and 1899 G20C specimens NGC-certified as MS 64.

rudman coleccion — *RUDMAN JAMAICA SET*

A complete set of the Commonwealth coinage of Jamaica 1869-1969, this collection includes dozens of coins ranging in denomination from farthing through penny, as well as a five-shillings commemorative dated 1966. With the exception of a single AU 58 example, all of the coins are Mint State. Included are several issues struck at the Ottawa Mint (mintmark C) and the Heaton Mint in Birmingham, England (mintmark H). Among the stars of this collection are halfpennies dated 1882H (NGC-graded MS 65) and 1905 (MS 66), and pennies dated 1882 (MS 64), 1900 (MS 64 PL) and 1916H (MS 64).

POLDAN — *GREAT BRITAIN — A Complete Set of Victorian Sixpences*

The sixpence coinage of Queen Victoria spans the years 1838-1901, and this set is complete in all dates and major varieties, a truly remarkable achievement. Most of the coins are in the mid-high Mint State grades, the exceptions being rare dates that the owner hopes to upgrade as opportunity permits. The introductory text to the series is quite detailed and informative, reflecting a real understanding of the series and providing a useful guide to collectors. Highlights within the scarce issues include 1862 (NGC MS 65), 1863 (NGC MS 62), 1866 (NGC MS 65), and 1878/7 (NGC AU 55).

Best Presented Sets

Lucky One — *Life's Dream — Liberty Head Half Eagles 1839-1908*

The stated goal of this collector has been "putting together a set of coins that were rare enough that they would challenge me until the day I die." The long run of dates and many mints in this series provide such a challenge. While not yet complete, what is already present is quite impressive. All issues from 1894 to 1908 are Mint State, while the earlier issues range from XF to MS. Highlights of this collection include 1842-D Small Date (NGC AU 50), 1846-C (NGC AU 55),

1853-D (NGC MS 61), 1862-S (NGC AU 53) and 1876-S (NGC AU 58). The owner's commentary on how the set was assembled will certainly resonate with any veteran collector.

JAA USA/Philippines Collection — *USA-Philippines, Proof Issues*

The Philadelphia Mint coined proofs of the United States coinage for The Philippines during the years 1903-08, and this collection is complete from half centavo through peso. The coins are uniformly high in grade, with some truly outstanding examples. A few key pieces include the 1905 centavo (NGC PF 67 RB), 1908 five centavos (NGC PF 66) and 1905 fifty centavos (NGC PF 67). What really sets this collection apart, however, is the wealth of information provided by its owner. The introductory essay alone would make an excellent article for a numismatic journal, yet each coin entry is also described in detail, making this presentation a handy guide to collectors choosing to pursue a similar collection.

TMS Coins — *½ Sovereign 1838-1901, Circulation Issue, (VICTORIA)*

This collection features the gold half sovereign (ten shillings) series of Queen Victoria, who still holds the record as longest-reigning British monarch. The owner presents a history of the sovereign and its half unit as coins of the realm, as well as a biography of Victoria herself. Each coin is illustrated and described fully, including it aesthetic qualities and provenance, when known. While the collection is still a work in progress, some of its current highlights include 1847 (NGC MS 64), 1852 (NGC MS 65), 1863 without die number (NGC MS 64) and 1883 (NGC MS 64).

jgenn — *Jack's Mexican Charles III Portrait 8 Reales Hoard*

The Spanish eight reales silver coin, once familiar throughout the world, was revised in 1772 to feature a portrait of the reigning monarch, Charles (Carlos) III. These were issued until his succession by Charles IV in 1789. This collection brings together all dates and major varieties of this series coined at the Mexico City Mint. The history of this series is presented in a brief but entertaining introduction, and each specimen is described fully and quite well illustrated. Some of the better pieces include 1776Mo FM (NGC MS 63), 1780Mo FF (NGC MS 62) and the very scarce 1784Mo FF (NGC XF 45) that was purchased at an auction in Madrid.

Danziger — *Freie Stadt Danzig (1923-1939)*

Danzig was the German name of what is now the Polish City of Gdansk. Between the two World Wars it had the status of Free City and was thus able to produce its own unique series of coins from 1923 through 1937. This set is complete for all denominations and dates, and the grades are uniformly high. A few of the better pieces include 1927 half gulden (NGC MS 66), 1932 five gulden KM-157 (NGC

MS 63) and an amazing 1924 gold 25 gulden (NGC MS 67). The presentation of this set is truly outstanding, with a rich essay on the history of the Danzig Free State and the background of its coinage. In addition, each specimen is beautifully imaged and described in detail.

Custom Sets



Best Overall Custom Set

Spencer Collection — *Spencer Collection of So-Called Dollars*

So-called dollars are commemorative medals of approximately silver dollar size, and the American series goes back to 1826. The goal of this collector is not necessarily completion by Hibler-Kappen numbers, but rather to assemble as many Mint State pieces as possible with an emphasis on rarities. Proof of the latter is this set's inclusion of the gold Commerce & Industry medal from the 1962 Seattle World's Fair, one of just four examples struck (NGC MS 66). Each specimen is described in detail and splendidly illustrated. Also included are tips for collectors seeking more information about this rich and varied series.



Best World Custom Set

MJSH — *Polish Danzig ¼ Thalers of Sigismund III*

In the early 17th Century Danzig (now part of Poland) was ruled by Sweden's Sigismund III, and it issued an extensive series of coins. The ort or quarter-thaler, valued at 10 groszy, is the subject of this handsome collection, which is nearly complete by date and varieties. Each of the coins is NGC-certified, and all but one grade AU or higher. Rarities include 1611 (AU 55) and 1612 (AU Details), while the top-graded coin is a lovely 1616 SA (with ruff collar) in NGC MS 65. The owner of this set provides a brief but informative introduction to the series, and several coins are illustrated.



Best Ancients Custom Set

Taler Universe — *Select Ancients*

A splendid assemblage of 87 coins representing different rulers and time periods from Ancient Greece through the Roman Empire, this set provides some real eye candy. Each coin is NGC-certified and accompanied by superb photographs. The owner provides a commentary for each group of coins and has selected these pieces with a “Focus on engraver’s fine style, eye appeal, and overall design,” noting that additional coins will be added as they become available. Most of the entries are silver or billon, but bronze, electrum and gold are included, as well, for a wonderful look at the coinage of the ancient world.



Most Creative Custom Set

LUV2JOURNEY — *Big Cats Collection — Feline Coins from Around the World*

Within the realm of topical collecting, cats are quite a popular subject. In this set, however, there are no house kitties to be found. The theme is big cats as depicted on world coins. Most are modern issues made within the past 30 years, but exceptions include Albania’s 1926R five qindar leku depicting a lion’s head (NGC MS 66 RB) and a Belgian centime of 1901 with a seated lion as part of the nation’s arms (NGC MS 65 BN). There are 84 coins in total, ranging over the entire world, and all are in very high grades for their respective issues. The majority of these coins are illustrated, making for a quite entertaining display.



Most Informative Custom Set

The BRG Collection — *Horses*

This charming collection features depictions of horses on coins, medals and tokens from all periods of history back to ancient times. Having already been awarded “Most Creative Custom Set” in 2011, it presently features over 250 pieces and will continue to grow. Each specimen is described in detail, with most entries providing information about both the numismatic item and its subject matter. This is done in the form of two postcard style views, one for the specimen and another for the subject. The project is ongoing, particularly with respect to the historic views, but it’s already a very broad and educational presentation that transcends numismatics alone.

Collectors’ Journals

The Collectors’ Journal awards are our chance to highlight the great entries by our

members. This area of the site is all about collectors sharing their passion for the hobby with each other. We're proud to give this award to the collectors who have done an outstanding job of journaling their collecting experience.

Electric Peak Collection
gherrmann44
CaptBrian1

Best in Category

And as always, we have given out the Best in Category awards for the year.
A full review of the winners, including lists of the Best in Category winners can be found on our 2015 Awards Archive page.

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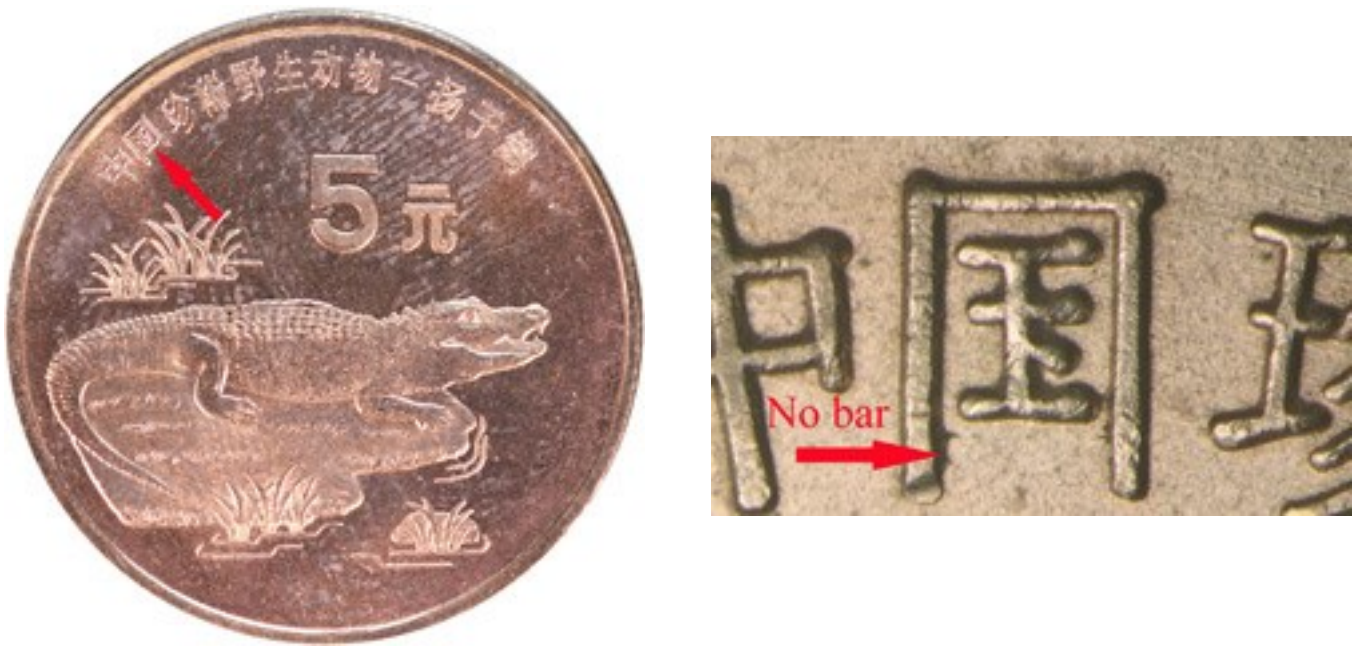
Modern Chinese Varieties: 1998 5 Yuan Alligator

Posted on 1/12/2016

This is the 12th installment of our monthly column featuring newly added varieties.

This is the first new variety of 2016, and the 12th installment of our monthly article featuring Chinese varieties. This month's featured coin is the 1998 5Y Alligator coin that can be found with and without the bottom bar of the character "GUO" located on the reverse of the coin featuring the Alligator.

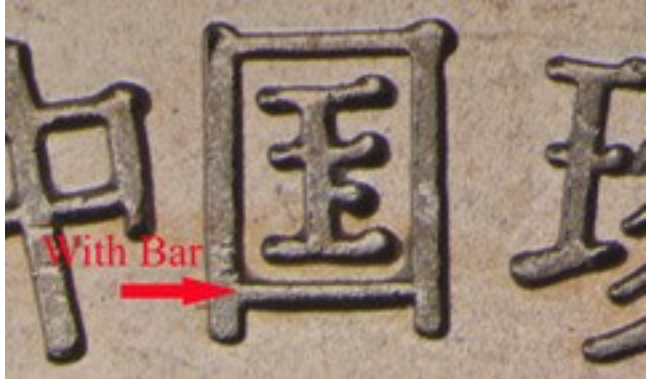
This is an example of the missing bar on the "GUO" character. **(Photos 1 & 2)**.



(Left) 1998 5 Yuan Alligator ("without bar" variety), **(Right)** Close Up ("without bar" variety)
Click images to enlarge.

This example shows the correct version with the bar on the character "GUO" **(Photos 3 & 4)**.





(Left)1998 5 Yuan Alligator ("with bar" variety), **(Right)** Close Up ("with bar" variety)
Click images to enlarge.

Both varieties share a common obverse, bearing the 1998 date, shown below **(Photo 5)**.



Click image to enlarge.

Look for another interesting variety to be featured next month.

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A Letter from Mark Salzberg

Posted on 1/6/2016

The chairman of CCG reflects on the successes of 2015 and looks forward to many new developments in 2016.

Dear Fellow Numismatists:



Happy New Year! January is usually the most exciting month of the year for numismatists, and this year is no exception. The month begins with a bevy of auctions at which more than $100 million in rare coins and paper money will be sold. These auctions will be held simultaneously in New York and Tampa in conjunction with the NYINC and FUN Show.

There are also a host of new coins slated to come out in January. Most notable are the 2016 Silver and Gold Eagles, two coins that celebrate their 30th anniversaries this year.

The Silver Eagle is probably the most popular collectible coin in the world right now and, amazingly, NGC has graded more than 8 million of them—far more than any other third-party coin grading service. This year will be particularly exciting for collectors of Silver Eagles and modern coins in general as NGC launches a range of interesting new programs to coincide with new US Mint releases.

Recently, for example, NGC announced that it had inked exclusive deals with John Mercanti, the former 12th US Mint Chief Engraver and designer of the reverse of the American Silver Eagle, and Ed Moy, the former 38th Director of the US Mint, to individually hand-sign NGC certification labels. John and Ed join Elizabeth Jones, the former 11th US Mint Chief Engraver, who also signs certification labels exclusively for NGC.

These hand-signed labels create a unique collectible that has an appealing

personal connection to historically important US Mint figures. Besides these autographed labels, NGC continues to lead the way with novel programs that build interest in the hobby such as colored holders and metallic foil labels.

Spearheading these efforts is Michael “Miles” Standish, who we are very pleased to have recently hired as a vice president. Miles has more than 30 years of industry experience and in the last 15 years has become particularly well known for his innovations in the modern coin market. His knowledge and creativity will help NGC to develop many new and exciting programs that will enhance the appeal and presentation of modern coins.

Modern coin collectors have much more to look forward to in 2016.

As we look forward to 2016, I also reflect upon our achievements during the prior year. 2015 was a noteworthy year for NGC in every category from modern coins to ancient coins.

NGC Ancients, which had a banner year in 2015. After having been selected to grade several important collections in 2014, including Demitriadis and Kern, NGC Ancients gained more traction over the last year and has graded many of the most valuable rarities to come to auction.

In fact, perhaps the most valuable coin in the upcoming Heritage Auctions NYINC World & Ancient Coins sale is a Macedonian decadrachm of Alexander the Great that was graded by NGC Ancients. It really is an incredible privilege to be able to handle the world’s greatest rarities from ancient times to the modern era.

While NGC has had many exciting developments over the last year in the United States, even more significant are our developments overseas.

In June, NGC and its affiliated companies, Numismatic Conservation Services (NCS) and Paper Money Guaranty (PMG), announced a major expansion in China that included a new office in Shanghai that is more than double the size of our previous space. We also added four high-level Official Submission Centers in the country. Our new Shanghai office has allowed us to offer on-site NCS conservation and PMG grading in China for the first time in addition to more frequent on-site NGC grading events.

Meanwhile, we added a new Official Submission Center in Japan, grew our operations in Europe and Hong Kong, and graded a number of major world coin rarities that sold at auctions throughout the year.

Our international expansion propelled NGC to grade a record number of coins in

2015, including our 1 millionth Chinese coin. Likewise, in 2015 PMG graded far more notes than in any other year.

This success did not happen overnight. For more than 28 years we have worked tirelessly to build companies that have a positive impact on the hobby around the world. We continue to align our goals with those of collectors and dealers, maintain a long-term philosophy, and provide consistent and superior services. As a result, NGC, NCS and PMG have enhanced their position as the world's leading and largest coin and paper money service companies.

We are, of course, extremely fortunate and humbled to be in this position. We know that none of this would be possible without the support we receive from people like you.

It is our hope that we can use our position to continue to expand and enhance the hobby around the world. We will do this by providing the best service, by creating, improving and translating free online resources on our websites, and by continuing our sponsorships of essential organizations and institutions such as the American Numismatic Association, Professional Numismatists Guild and the Smithsonian Institution.

Thank you all very much for giving us the opportunity to serve the hobby we love.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2016.

Regards,

Mark Salzberg
Chairman

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NGC Accepting Submissions at Long Beach

Posted on 1/12/2016

Drop off your NGC submissions at the Long Beach Expo, booth #431.

NGC will be accepting regular submissions for all service levels* at the Long Beach Expo, at the Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach, CA from Thursday, February 4 to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 6, 2016. **Call for Saturday cut off times.** All submissions will be sent to our office in Sarasota, FL. Services include World Services, Ancient Coin Services, Bulk, PHOTO PROOF® and more.

Special Note:

- Due to the special handling required, NGC does not accept submissions of the following coins at this show for regular service submissions to be returned to the NGC offices: Coins over 3.5" (90 mm) in diameter and .39" (10 mm) in depth, March of Dimes 3-coin set, West Point 2-coin set, San Francisco 2-coin Proof set, Coin & Currency sets, 25th Anniversary Eagles, 20th Anniversary Eagles, Early Releases, American Liberty Series and 10th Anniversary Platinum Sets. These submissions must be sent directly to Sarasota, FL, by the submitter.

*Does not include 5-ounce coins.

Questions should be directed to NGC customer service at service@NGCcoin.com or 1-800-NGC-COIN (642-2646).

Visit our table for answers to any questions about the services offered by NGC. Please remember that NGC does not provide opinions or free evaluations of coins at trade shows.

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NGC Registry News

Posted on 1/12/2016

Check out the new slots and sets added to the NGC Registry.

2016 has swept in with a big bang in the NGC Registry. It is sure to be a banner year for our all of our collectors. The requests are flowing in, and we are excited at the number of new slot requests and new NGC Registry set requests. Thank you, again, to all of our annual contest participants, and congratulations to this year's winners. We appreciate all that you do. To view the 2015 NGC Registry Award Winners, click here.

For those of you who are looking for new set options, we have added countless new sets recently. Here are the new categories and sets, just waiting to be filled:

New NGC Categories

- Turks & Caicos Islands

New Sets

- Angola: Portuguese Colony Type Set, 1921-1974, Circulation Issue
- Angola: People's Republic Type Set, 1975-1992, Circulation Issue
- Australia - Bullion: Koala Platinum $15, 1988-2005, Proof
- Australia - Bullion: Platinum $15, 2006-Date, Proof
- Azores: 1750-1866, Complete Circulation Issue
- Bulgaria: 1963-1990, Proof
- China - Commemorative: 1986 Year of Peace
- China - Commemorative: 2015 Cao Xueqin 300th Anniversary of Birth Set
- China - Commemorative: 2015 Defeat of Fascism & Japan 70th Anniversary Set
- China - Commemorative: 2015 Tibet Autonomy 50th Anniversary Set
- China - Commemorative: 2015 Xinjiang Autonomy 60th Anniversary Set

- China - Commemorative: 2015 Xu BeiHong 100th Anniversary Set
- Keeling - Cocos Islands, Token Coinage, 1913-1968, Circulation Issue
- Niue: Silver $5, 2012-Date, Circulation Issue
- Niue: Silver $2, 2009-Date, Circulation Issue
- Niue: Silver $15, 2005-Date, Proof
- Norway: Silver 50 Kroner, 1978-Date, Proof
- Norway: Silver 100 Kroner, 1978-Date, Proof
- Portugal: Manuel II, Type Set, 1908-1910, Complete
- Portugal: Escudo 1927-1968, Circulation Issue
- San Marino: Gold 1/2 Scudo, 1998-2001, Proof
- San Marino: Gold Scudo, 1974-1993, Mint State
- San Marino: Gold Scudo, 1991-2001, Proof
- San Marino: Gold Scudo, 1974-2001, Complete
- San Marino: Gold 2 Scudi, 1974-1993, Mint State
- San Marino: Gold 2 Scudi, 1991-Date, Proof
- San Marino: Gold 2 Scudi, 1974-Date, Complete
- US: Tokens and Medals: Coin and Chronicle Set Medals, 2013-Date, Complete
- US: American Eagle and Buffalo Coins: 2016 Eagles Set, Mint State
- US: American Eagle and Buffalo Coins: 2016 Eagles Set, Proof

New Slots

Here are just some of the categories where we have recently added new slots:

- Australia - Bullion
- Australia - Commemorative
- Canada - Bullion
- Canada - Commemorative
- China - Panda
- Cook Islands
- Great Britain
- Niue
- Tuvalu

Do you have an NGC-certified coin in your hand, and you’re not sure where it may fit in the NGC Registry? We are here to help with requests and with other questions you may have. Feel free to send us an email, and let us know exactly how we can help. Reach us easily via email at registry@NGCcoin.com

If you're not familiar with the NGC Registry, take some time to explore it, and see the many collecting options that are available. It is completely complimentary. If

you have any questions, you may also click below for our help page:

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NGC Ancients: Mythological Creatures on Ancient Coins

Posted on 1/12/2016

A survey of the ugliest and strangest mythological creatures on ancient coins.

Among the most unusual things to appear on ancient Greek coins were monsters that more often are described as mythological creatures. To people of the modern world, these creatures are bizarre and fanciful; we wonder who could have believed that such creatures existed. But to the ancient Greeks they were familiar, and they played a meaningful role in their reckoning of the world. In this column we'll discuss a few of these creatures.

Medusa. This terrifying creature was one of three sisters, known as Gorgons, who appeared with wings, snakes for hair, and expressions that bore sharp fangs and a tongue. Mortals were in grave danger, as merely looking at them would result in being turned to stone. While ghastly, the image of Medusa also had protective qualities, with the hero Perseus (who decapitated Medusa) using her head as a weapon against his enemies. He later bestowed the head of Medusa to the goddess Athena, who adorned her armor with it as a protective device.

Medusa often appears on ancient coins of the Mediterranean world. Below are three examples:



Click image to enlarge.

The scowling Medusa is engraved in high relief on this silver stater of Neapolis in Macedon, struck early in the 5th Century B.C.



Click image to enlarge.

Snakes outline the image of Medusa on this silver hemidrachm struck at the city of Parium in Mysia sometime in the 4th Century B.C.



Click image to enlarge.

Even the most powerful of Greek kings sought the protection of Medusa. This bronze half-unit of the Macedonian King Alexander III ‘the Great’ (336-323 B.C.) portrays the Medusa head on a shield. The reverse shows a crested helmet.

Ketos.The sea monster known as a ketos appears on a surprising number of ancient coins, including some important issues. When literally translated from Greek, “ketos” means “sea monster” and later in the Bible “large fish.” According to ancient myth, one ketos was said to reside near the mouth of the Nile River, and another in the Hellespont, near Troy.

Beyond its prominence in myth (a ketos, for example, was slain by Perseus and by Heracles), the very idea of a lurking ketos would have concerned any superstitious mariner. Sea travel in the ancient world was of great importance, and it was far more dangerous than it is in modern times. Three coins depicting ketos

are shown below:



Click image to enlarge.

This silver stater of the 4th Century B.C., from Phaselis in Lycia, shows a ketos over waves beneath the prow of a galley. The reverse shows the stern of a galley.



Click image to enlarge.

One of the most significant coinages of the Greek world was the silver tetradrachm of Syracuse, Sicily. This one of the 460s B.C. shows ketos beneath a chariot, and on the reverse the head of the nymph Arethusa.



Click image to enlarge.

The fearsome head of a ketos appears on this silver tetrobol from the city of Cindya in Caria. It was issued c.510-480 B.C., and shows on its reverse a most

intriguing geometric pattern.

Many of the most familiar Greek monsters are hybrids that combine body parts of various living creatures. In most cases, these beasts did not represent an existing fear, but the triumph of heroes in familiar myths. We'll discuss a few of these creatures below.

Chimera. One of the strangest of the hybrid creatures is the Chimera, which most prominently appears on coins of Sicyon, a city near Corinth in central Greece. It was significant to this region because the hero Bellerophon, who with the help of the mythological winged horse Pegasus killed the fire-breathing Chimera, was a hero of Corinth.



Click image to enlarge.

On this silver stater of Sicyon from the late 5th Century B.C., the snake-headed tail and the goat forepart are attached to the lion body of the Chimera.



Click image to enlarge.

Pegasus. Perhaps the most recognizable of all ancient mythological creatures is Pegasus, the winged horse, who had aided Bellerophon. It appears above on a silver stater of the Corinthian colony Leucas. Issued there c.320-280 B.C., it pairs the creature with the goddess Athena.



Click image to enlarge.

Finally, on this bronze struck at Corinth early in the 2nd Century A.D., the whole myth is brought together: the reverse shows Bellerophon riding Pegasus, ready to hurl his spear at the chimera.

The ancient Greeks applied wings to many animals other than the horse. In fact, they seem to have found great pleasure in creating new ‘winged’ creatures, for they added wings to many things, including people, dogs, bulls, goats, boars, lions and stags, as well as to objects, such as hats, shoes, helmets, ships, chariots, wands (the caduceus) and thunderbolts. Three examples are pictured below.



Click image to enlarge.

Talus. The winged creature Talus, prepares to throw a stone on the obverse of this silver stater of Phaestus on Crete, struck early in the 3rd Century B.C.



Click image to enlarge.

Harpy. This mythological creature, on this electrum hecte of c.550-500 B.C., stands on a pedestal and holds a tunny (tuna) fish.



Click image to enlarge.

Griffin. Yet another familiar mythological creature, the griffin, appears on this serrated denarius of the Roman Republic, struck in 79 B.C. by the moneyer L. Papius. The obverse portrays the goddess Juno Sospita.

Interested in reading more articles on Ancient coins? Click here

Images courtesy of Classical Numismatic Group

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Counterfeit Detection: The Top 10 Most Common Counterfeit US Coins

Posted on 1/12/2016

A list of the counterfeit US coins most often seen by NGC.

NGC has graded more than 33 million coins since it was founded in 1987. Although most of the coins it receives are genuine, NGC has identified hundreds of thousands of coins that are not genuine—counterfeits, altered dates, added mintmarks and other types of fakes.

Not surprisingly, some coins are counterfeited more often than others. This list reveals the top 10 most counterfeited US coins according to submissions received by NGC.

#10 – 1925-D Quarter Eagle

Indian Head Quarter and Half Eagles were faked in substantial numbers decades ago and many of these forgeries continue to appear in the marketplace. All dates and mintmark combinations are seen regularly, including relatively common dates like the 1925-D Quarter Eagle.



A Counterfeit 1912 Quarter Eagle. *Click images to enlarge.*

#9 – 1912 Quarter Eagle

Another Indian Head Quarter Eagle, the 1912 had a larger mintage than its 1925-D counterpart but it is actually rarer in high grades. In MS 63 for example, collectors can expect to pay $1,750 according to the NGC US Coin Price Guide.

#8 – 1911 Quarter Eagle

Interestingly, although the 1911-D Quarter Eagle is the key date in the series, its no mintmark Philadelphia counterpart is more often faked, at least based on submissions to NGC. This could be the case because the Philadelphia 1911 has the largest mintage in the series and therefore the spurious coins blend in more easily, or perhaps because collectors and dealers are far more cautious when looking at an example of the extremely rare 1911-D.

Learn more:
Counterfeit 1911-D Quarter Eagle
Chased Mintmark 1911-D Quarter Eagle

#7 – 1922 No D Lincoln Cent

The 1922 No D Lincoln Cent is one of several well-known key dates in the Lincoln Cent series. Most of the fakes seen by NGC are altered mintmarks—the 1922-D is quite common so counterfeiters will often use a tool to efface the mintmark. These are generally easy to detect.

Learn more:
Counterfeit 1922 No D Lincoln Cent



Left: A Genuine "S" Mintmark. Right: An Added "S" Mintmark on a 1909-S Indian Head Cent. *Click images to enlarge.*

#6 – 1909-S Indian Head Cent

Struck during the final year of the Indian Head Cent series—and the first year of the Lincoln Head Cent series—the 1909-S had a mintage of just 309,000 coins, the lowest of all Indian Head Cents. Even low grade examples sell for hundreds of dollars.

The Philadelphia 1909, however, had a mintage of more than 14 million coins and values are significantly lower by comparison. As a result, some nefarious individuals have added “S” mintmarks to these pieces in attempt to pass them off as genuine 1909-S Indian Head Cents. Struck counterfeits are seen only occasionally.

#5 – 1882 Three Dollar

The 1882 Three Dollar is a rare date with a mintage of only 1,500 coins, but it is not notably rarer than any other late date Three Dollar. Why then is this counterfeit seen so frequently by NGC?

A particular counterfeiter, known as the “Omega Counterfeiter” for the Ω symbol hidden on the fakes as a signature, targeted this coin. Significant quantities were produced and these forgeries often surface when older collections are sold. While these fakes are high quality, they are easily detected if you know what to look for.

Learn more:
Counterfeit 1882 Three Dollar Gold

#4 – 1914-D Lincoln Cent

Although not quite as rare or as famous as the 1909-S VDB Lincoln Cent, the 1914-D Lincoln Cent is still very scarce and desirable. Its mintage of just under 1.2 million specimens is low for a one cent coin.

The 1914-D was overlooked when it was issued and, therefore, high grade examples are difficult to locate. In fact, Mint State 1914-D cents are rarer and more valuable than 1909-S VDB cents.

Most of the counterfeit 1914-D Lincoln Cents that NGC sees are complete forgeries although we do encounter some added mintmark examples and an occasional altered date.

#3 – 1914 Quarter Eagle

With the second-lowest mintage in the series (240,000 coins), the 1914 sells at a premium to every other Indian Head Quarter Eagle save for the key date 1911-D. Mint State examples are particularly scarce with Gems (MS 65) selling for more than $20,000.

The incuse design of Indian Head Quarter and Half Eagles makes them more challenging to authenticate and many coin dealers rely on NGC to definitively determine whether an example is authentic or not. The 1914 Quarter Eagle may be the date that is most commonly seen faked, but counterfeits of all dates in these series are routinely seen by NGC.

#2 – 1916-D Mercury Dime

The 1916-D Mercury Dime is a legendary key date with a minuscule mintage of just 264,000 coins. Struck during the first year of this popular series, which celebrates its 100th anniversary this year, the 1916-D has long been in high demand among collectors.

According to the NGC US Coin Price Guide, collectors should expect to pay close to $1,000 even for the lowest graded specimens. Prices quickly escalate in better grades and can top $10,000 in AU 55.

These values make this coin a tempting target for counterfeiters. Many added mintmark examples are seen since the Philadelphia 1916 has such a high mintage in comparison. Outright counterfeits also exist and NGC has even seen some deceptive pieces that are created by cutting a genuine Philadelphia 1916 through the edge and joining the top half with a side taken from a D-mintmark issue.

Learn more:
Die Struck Counterfeit 1916-D Mercury Dime
Examining an Added Mintmark
How Big is the Counterfeiting Problem?



The World's Most Commonly Counterfeited Coin: The 1909-S VDB Lincoln Cent. *Click images to enlarge.*

#1 – 1909-S VDB Lincoln Cent

No surprise here. The most famous US key date is also the US coin that is most commonly faked. Even people outside of the hobby have heard of the 1909-S VDB and anyone who has ever collected Lincoln Cents has had this coin on their want list.

Only 484,000 examples were struck before it was decided to remove Victor David Brenner's initials from the reverse. Although many were saved by people interested in the new Lincoln Cent design, collector demand exceeds the supply. Mid-range circulated examples can easily fetch $1,000 or more.

NGC regularly sees added mintmark 1909-S VDB cents as well as outright counterfeits and even the occasional added VDB example.

Interested in reading more articles on Counterfeit Detection? Click here. And be sure to read NGC's monthly column in the ANA's *The Numismatist*.

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United States

USA Coin Album: Hobby Nostalgia

Posted on 1/12/2016

A clever device from the past brings back fond memories



The year 2015 marked my golden anniversary in the coin hobby, so I've been feeling a little nostalgic of late. Of course, it may be that I'm nostalgic all the time, as my main collecting area for years has been items relating to the history of the hobby since the 1930s. That was the decade in which coin collecting broke free of its confinement to well off gentlemen of some means and became an "everyman" pursuit. The introduction of coin boards and folders priced at just 25 cents made searching through pocket change and bank rolls an activity for persons of all ages and either gender. Filling all the openings was more of a game than a scholarly pursuit, and thousands of Americans joined in the fun.

This activity grew rapidly during the 1950s and reached its apex in the years 1960-64. This was a period when many department and variety stores maintained coin and stamp departments. These were concession operations, the material for sale being supplied by large wholesalers such as the Friedberg Brothers, Robert and Jack, who did business under the name Coin & Currency Institute, Inc. Still recognizable today as the publisher of widely used books on U. S. paper money and gold coins of the world, C&CI formerly produced an extremely successful line of coin albums titled Library of Coins, as well as their little brothers for beginners, Treasury of Coins. These albums were offered in its chain of franchises, and they did much to stimulate coin purchases by persons buying the scarce issues that could no longer be found in circulation. I'll soon be publishing a book that catalogs all of the coin albums published by C&CI and includes a history of the company

and its owners.



Among the many relics from the peak years of the coin hobby to be found in my own collection is a nifty gadget called SCAN-O-MATIC. This is a lighted magnifier into which one can drop a quantity of cents through a vertical tube in the same manner planchets used to be fed to the coin press. Sliding the side handle back and forth causes the lowest cent in the tube to pass under the magnifying lens to reveal one side. Sliding the handle again flips it over to again pass under the magnifier with the other side up. One more slide of the handle drops that cent out the bottom and brings the next one into place. By using this device collectors could go through an entire roll of cents in a couple minutes to check for better dates, varieties and upgrades.

As a young child excitedly perusing all the offerings at the coin/stamp departments in San Francisco's The Emporium or nearby F. W. Woolworth, I lusted for a SCAN-O-MATIC of my own. Unfortunately, I was not to own one at the time, as this device sold for a whopping $12.95 in the 1960s, quite a sum then. What money I had was better spent on actual coins. That childhood itch has since been scratched with a vengeance, as I now own eight examples of the SCAN-O-MATIC, which hasn't been produced since the early 1970s. My collection includes various colors of the plastic body, as well as all of the packaging and accessory combinations known to me. I don't have much occasion to use them, as I'm no longing looking through rolls of cents, but they do still work. I even keep one in my office as a reminder of my own history in the hobby, and it's drawn some amusing smiles from the young graders who were born long after its time.

A similarly fun gadget in my collection is the ROTAGRADER. Another plastic wonder, it looks a little like a film cartridge from those cheap instamatic cameras popular in the 1970s. A roll of paper inside the cartridge is printed with photos of popular coin types in various grades. Turning the knurled wheels on either end of the ROTAGRADER moves this paper around two spools so that the desired image and grade come into view. Of course, this tool was useful solely for circulated coins, but such pieces were the main thrust of the hobby during its peak years in the early 1960s. Collecting coins from circulation and filling folders was all the rage, and dealers' ads still included long listings of inexpensive, low grade coins, something one just doesn't see anymore.

These are only two items in my very large collection of tools and holders relating to the hobby of coin collecting, but they illustrate the ingenuity that once existed in a time long before coin certification and encapsulation. While my actual coin collection was extremely modest then, it was a cherished possession that I sought to enjoy on as many levels as possible. Though I lacked both of these gadgets when I could have used them the most, they now turn up occasionally from online sellers, so I can recreate some of that early excitement. In this respect I suppose I'm no different from the graying car lover who's finally able to buy that vintage muscle car he yearned for in high school. It seems we all have an old itch to scratch…



David W. Lange's column, "USA Coin Album," appears monthly in The Numismatist, *the official publication of the American Numismatic Association.*

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United States

Chinese Pandas: Big Search for a Little Coin

Posted by Peter Anthony on 1/12/2016

The search for a 1-gram, 2016 10 Yuan Panda coin took me to three coin markets in China.

For the last several years Panda collectors received their first view of the following year's coins at the Beijing International Coin Expo. China Gold Coin would offer a few hundred of the B.U. coins for sale to the public at the show. After those were gone collectors had to wait weeks until the new Pandas began to appear in coin stores.

As I walked though Beijing's new Madian Coin Market in early December, I wanted to see how far distribution of the 2016 Pandas had progressed. 2016 is the first year that Pandas have been struck in metric weights. Every coin is a new type, which makes them even more intriguing than usual. I was in particular need of a 10 Yuan, one gram coin for photographic purposes.

Madian is a modern two-story building filled with row upon row of dealer stalls. Shops usually have some specialty. Some sell stamps, others paper money, still others deal in circulating coins. Many focus on gold and silver Chinese coins.

On this day, it turned out that the hottest numismatic item in Madian was not any gold or silver coin. Rather it was a new 10 Yuan copper nickel coin and a 100 Yuan paper note. These were issued to commemorate China's aerospace program. In shades of blue and green the note displays a satellite on one side and a history of flight, from bird to space travel, on the other. The coin shows a satellite. Dealers had these for sale in quantity, as well as single coins and notes. Everyone I spoke to in Beijing knew about them. Prices ranged from $20 to almost $200, depending on condition.

I did find some 2016 Pandas in Madian, though. Half a dozen dealers had the new

gold Pandas in their showcases. Silver Pandas were slightly more available. The asking price for a silver Panda was 169 RMB, or about $26 USD. This was exactly the new issue price at the Beijing Show a month earlier. Unfortunately, none of the dealers would part with a 1 gram Panda. The coins were only offered as part of a 5-coin B.U. set, so I spent the rest of my Madian visit examining other coins.



The new 2016 1 gram gold Panda and the Beijing coin market

As I looked at these, the value of an NGC graded coin jumped out. All of the ungraded coins I saw that day had condition problems that were visible with a 5X loupe.

My Panda search was finally rewarded a few days later, but I had to travel to Shanghai! In the Lugong coin market a dealer finally sold me a solo 1 gram Panda. It's a tiny little beauty that brings a very strong premium over its $34 melt value in spite of a substantial mintage. Prices will have to come down a long way before it is popular with bullion buyers. I paid more than double melt for mine and NGC-graded MS 70 coins have changed hands in China for as high as $170.

Still to come is the release of the 50 gram and 100 gram proof gold Pandas in the next few months. Many people are excited about these new sizes and look forward to the day when they are finally available for sale.

Peter Anthony is an expert on Chinese modern coins with a particular focus on Panda coins. He is an analyst for the NGC Chinese Modern Coin Price Guide as well as a consultant on Chinese modern coins.

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From the NGC Archives: 1878 S Silver Dollar

Posted on 1/12/2016

George T. Morgan was recruited from England to join the US Mint's engraving staff in 1876.

Though scarcely welcomed by Chief Engraver William Barber and his son Charles, Mr. Morgan made a major score when his designs were selected for the newly-authorized silver dollars of 1878.



An extremely rare coin in any condition, this 1878 San Francisco Mint dollar features silver dollar catalogers Van Allen and Mallis B1 Reverse. Also included within the *Top-100 Morgan Dollar Varieties*, as defined by co-authors Michael S. Fey and Jeff Oxman, working dies of this subtype are distinguished by a long central arrowshaft. This VAM-60 variety is further identified by its obverse die, with several raised lumps around Liberty's eye. Examples are few and far between, and this splendid coin is quite possibly the finest known. Its superbly struck, with prooflike fields and attractive toning of medium gray, blended with accents of iridescent color.

Are you interested in learning more about these coins? Click here to visit the NGC Coin Explorer and read on.

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American Numismatic Association Celebrates 125th Anniversary

Posted on 1/12/2016

In 1891, Dr. Heath and other numismatists met in Chicago and, with 61 charter members, founded the American Numismatic Association.

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO — In the 19th century, information about specialized subject matters was hard to obtain, particularly about something as curious as numismatics – the study of coins, paper currency, tokens and medals. Meeting fellow collectors was nearly impossible, especially for those who lived too remote to take advantage of numismatic societies in large cities. Such was the dilemma of Dr. George Heath of Monroe, Michigan, a coin collector whose efforts at obtaining additional knowledge of the hobby and specimens for his collection were hampered by his location.

Supported by his conviction that there was a need for an organization that would reach all collectors, Dr. Heath posed the question, “What is the matter with having an American Numismatic Association?” And so in 1891, Dr. Heath and other numismatists met in Chicago and with 61 charter members founded the American Numismatic Association. “There is nothing like the alliance of kindred pursuits to stimulate growth and interest,” Heath said.

In the last 125 years, the ANA has grown to become the largest nonprofit numismatic organization in the world. The Association provides its 24,000 members access to the best educational programs in the hobby – seminars, lectures, correspondence courses and online learning opportunities – plus the opportunity to engage with like-minded collectors at two annual conventions.

In the early years, conventions provided the opportunity for members to come together, but relatively few took part due to the limitations of travel. The strength of

ANA membership depended upon the quality of *The Numismatist*, a publication first printed and published by Dr. Heath in 1888. Heath did his best to spark interest and provide a wide array of articles, biographical sketches, news items, and the ever-interesting tidbits.



Today, *The Numismatist* remains the gold standard of hobby publications. In December 2015, the ANA digitized all 127 volumes -- 110,000-plus pages of numismatic history available at the click of a mouse. The online digital editions look exactly like the printed originals, allowing users to experience *The Numismatist* in its historical context.

National recognition was achieved by the ANA in 1912, when it was granted a Federal Charter, signed by President William H. Taft. An amendment to make the charter permanent was introduced in 1962, and was signed by President John F. Kennedy.

As the Association flourished, a call was made for a national home and headquarters, and a building fund was established in 1961. Sixteen cities in the central region of the U.S. bid for the location. Ultimately, Colorado Springs, Colorado was selected, and ground-breaking ceremonies were held in 1966. Thanks to the contributions of nearly 4,000 donors, the ANA headquarters was dedicated and opened on June 10, 1967.

The ANA is widely regarded for its variety of educational courses and seminars that enrich members' knowledge and enjoyment of the hobby. The popular Summer Seminar, held annually on the campus of Colorado College, offers students a varied selection of week-long courses. Members also have the opportunity to complete a series of correspondence courses, from their own home, to receive a "Numismatic Scholar" diploma. These courses enhance understanding of the hobby, and introduce collectors to a vast body of resources.

The ANA maintains the largest circulating numismatic library in the world, consisting of more than 128,000 books, auction catalogs, periodicals, videos and slide sets. The climate-controlled rare book room preserves and displays many of the library's most important references, including a copy of *Illustrium Imagines*, the world's first illustrated numismatic book that was printed in 1517.

The Edward C. Rochette Money Museum includes an extensive and ever-growing

collection of historical numismatic treasures. This one-of-a-kind facility showcases items the public cannot see anywhere else, including the McDermott/Bebee specimen 1913 Liberty Head nickel valued at $2 million, and two of the 15 known 1804 dollars valued together at $6 million. The museum also features the famous Bebee collection of U.S. paper money, and a display of the spectacular Harry W. Bass Jr. collection of U.S. gold and pattern coins.

In February 2016 the Money Museum will unveil an Olympic exhibit featuring a wide range of numismatic objects produced for the Olympic Games, some dating back to the sixth century B.C. Rare Syracusan dekadrachms and other early Greek coins along with modern award and participation medals, badges and commemorative coins will be on display to highlight the history, ideals and pageantry of the world's greatest athletic event.

Membership in the ANA is less than $50 annually and includes 12 issues of *The Numismatist*, access to the best educational programs in the hobby and free admission to the World's Fair of Money and National Money Show — the biggest, most educational coin shows in the country.

This is a guest article. The thoughts and opinions in the piece are those of their author and are not necessarily the thoughts of the Certified Collectibles Group.

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